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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Madhav Mutalik et al.

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APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR MIRRORING AND

RESTORING DATA

Examiner:

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## **CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)**

The undersigned hereby certifies that this document is being placed in the United States mail with first-class postage attached, addressed to MAIL STOP AMENDMENT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450. Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the 4<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2006.

## MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

1. (Amended) A method for mirroring data of a first storage area, comprising: placing a second storage area in a first state, wherein the first state of the second storage area is a state in which updates to the first storage area are made to the second storage area;

mirroring data from the first storage area to the second storage area while the second storage area is in the first state;

changing a state of the second storage area from the first state to a second state in which updates to the first storage area are not made to the second storage area, wherein after the changing act the second storage area contains a snapshot of data of the first storage area at a given time; [and]

restoring data to the first storage area from the second storage area while maintaining the second storage area in the second state;